



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND

JUN 5 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR LUKE AIR FORCE BASE AND TENANT UNITS

FROM: 56 FW/CC

SUBJECT: Mexico Travel Limitations

1. The welfare and safety of our personnel are my top priority. Narco-terrorism and drug related criminal activity continues along the U.S.-Mexican border. Attacks thus far have been aimed primarily at members of rival drug trafficking organizations, Mexican police forces, and criminal justice officials. Although there is no specific threat directed against Americans or U.S. Service members, foreign visitors and residents, including Americans, have been among the victims of homicides and kidnappings along the border. This violence has resulted in over 7,200 deaths since 2008, and over 1,000 deaths in 2009 alone.
2. Effective immediately, all active duty, Guardsmen and Reservists on Title 10 status, students, recruiters and tenant units attached to Luke Air Force Base or assigned to any AETC unit are prohibited from personal travel to or through any portion of Mexico located within 50 statute miles of the U.S.-Mexico border, to include the communities of: Tijuana, Nogales, Ciudad Juarez, Nuevo Laredo, Acuna, Piedras Negras, Reynosa, Matamoras, Las Palomas, Agua Prieta, Sasabe, Naco, and Sonoyta. Additionally, personnel are prohibited from traveling anywhere in the state of Chihuahua. This policy does not apply to foreign students. **EXCEPTION:** Official Luke Air Force Base missions are not prohibited from entering these areas.
3. Air travel or cruises to Mexican states and cities other than those previously identified is authorized with the unit commander's approval of a Force Protection Personal Travel Plan (Template available through the unit Antiterrorism Representative). Commanders must verify the member has completed Level I Force Protection training within the previous three months, receives a threat briefing from AFOSI or the Antiterrorism Officer, and if SCI indoctrinated, the member reports travel to the Special Security Representative/Officer. Members are responsible for complying with the Force Protection Personal Travel Plan.
4. DoD civilians, contractors and military or civilian family members are highly discouraged from travel to the cities previously listed. Should travel to Mexico be considered, personnel are urged to seek the assistance of their assigned unit to complete a Force Protection Travel Plan. All other Luke personnel, including Guardsmen in Title 32 status, are strongly discouraged against personal travel to the areas of Mexico listed above. The 56th FW Antiterrorism Officer or the sponsoring unit can assist with the development of a Personal Force Protection Plan.
5. Only I may grant exceptions to this policy, and will do so only on a limited, case-by-case basis. Should I grant an exception to this policy, unit commanders will ensure the 56 FW command post is notified when personnel depart the local area for Mexico, are scheduled to return, of any changes to travel plans, and when personnel arrive back in the local area.

6. This guidance memorandum supersedes all previous guidance on this topic.
7. My POC for this policy is Mr. Jonathan Hertwig, 56 FW/ATO, DSN 896-6331.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt F. Neubauer', with a stylized, cursive script.

KURT F. NEUBAUER
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander